

Police Department

Mission. The Wichita Police Department will do everything within its power to provide protection, arrest lawbreakers, and to be of service to all citizens within the community in a professional and ethical manner.

Overview. The Police Department seeks to maintain a safe environment for all residents of Wichita through aggressive crime prevention activities, diligent community policing and neighborhood involvement, rapid response to calls for service, and determined criminal investigation and apprehension activities. Services are provided to each neighborhood beat by six police officers and one specially trained community police officer.

The Department is organized into three Divisions: Field Services, Investigations and Support Services. Patrol officers in the Field Services Division work from four patrol bureaus in Wichita, each with a community sub-station. In addition to beat officers and community policing officers, Field Services personnel include Special Community Action Teams (SCAT) in each bureau as well as a cadre of School Resource Officers engaged in prevention and mentoring activities at local schools.

The Investigations Division is responsible for all follow-ups after a crime has been reported. The Division is organized functionally around types of criminal activity to enhance detective specialization and coordination. Sections include Persons Crimes, which investigates murder, rape, and gang related offenses; Property Crimes, which works cases involving larceny, robbery, burglary, auto-theft, forgery and fraud; and a Special Investigations section which focuses on narcotics, prostitution and alcohol offenses. The Investigations Division also operates the Police Laboratory and the Property and Evidence facility, which provides evidence collection, analysis and storage services.

The Support Services Division performs a variety of ancillary activities that generally support field personnel. The Special Services Bureau includes Planning and Research, Community Affairs, School Liaison, Fiscal Affairs and Court Liaison sections. The Records Bureau includes SPIDER and data control sections. The Training Bureau is responsible for in-service and recruit training at both the Training Center and the Firearms Range. The Special Operations Bureau coordinates the activities of the Bomb Squad, Honor Guard, Reserves, Chaplains and the Mounted Unit. In addition, this Bureau supervises the Traffic and Air Sections.



Each of the 36 patrol beats has an assigned community police officer, which interacts directly with the community and tailors police services to meet the specific needs of each neighborhood.

Finance and Operations. The budget for the Wichita Police Department continues funding for 626 commissioned positions, including the 141 added since 1995 as part of the Public Safety Initiative. The budget also adds eight grant funded School Resource Officers. The General Fund will absorb thirteen officers for which grant funds have expired in 1999.

Patrol activities are organized at the beat level, with the City divided into 36 beats. Each beat has a team of six beat officers who respond to neighborhood needs for service. In addition, a community police officer is assigned to each beat to tailor police services to the specific needs of that beat. Community police officers also provide a direct link between neighborhood residents and the police department.

Each of the four patrol bureaus has a SCAT of either 9 or 10 officers. Teams direct efforts towards improving the quality of neighborhoods by targeting police enforcement at specific areas of suspected criminal activity. The teams are often used to provide an additional police presence, supplementing beat officers.

Patrol services are coordinated through four neighborhood Police substations, one in each quadrant of Wichita. The substations are staffed 24-hours by a "badge on the floor," allowing residents around the clock access to police assistance. Each substation serves as an office for over 100 police officers assigned to the bureau. In addition, numerous satellite offices have been made available to police officers, typically through partnerships with the private sector and with other public agencies.



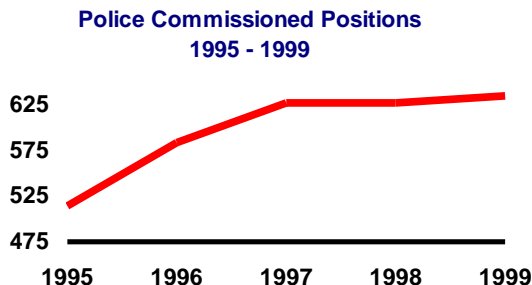
Patrol services are provided from sub-stations, one located in each quadrant of the city. Over 100 officers work from each sub-station.

Field Services staff the School Resource Officer program. Through the 1998-1999 school year, one officer was assigned to each of the six public high schools in Wichita. In addition to classroom curriculum, the officers serve as role models to high school youth, coordinating extra curricular activities, often targeted to at-risk youth.

The budget includes federal grant funding for eight additional school resource officers. Six officers will be reassigned from other duties to augment the program. The 14 new school resource officer positions will be added to middle schools in Wichita.

The 20 School Resource Officers, coupled with five school liaison officers who work with elementary school students, will provide an enhanced focus on the prevention of potential criminal behavior by identifying at-risk youth and working with them to encourage and reinforce positive behaviors.

During the last five years, police positions expanded significantly. Initially, community policing was established in selected neighborhoods. The impressive results of the pilot program led to community policing Citywide. In 1995 a panel formed to develop recommendations for enhancing police resources and the results were the Public Safety Initiative, launched in October 1995. The Public Safety Initiative added 141 commissioned positions (and 15 support positions) over three years.



Between 1995 and 1998 commissioned strength was increasing with a significant portion of the costs being absorbed by federal grant dollars. However, most of the federal grant dollars will expire by 2000. The impact of the loss of grant funds results in increased support from the General Fund to continue current services.

Field Services efforts are both pro-active (crime prevention activities) and re-active (prompt response to calls). The effectiveness of Field Services can be measured in a number of ways. Several crime rate measures are provided below to illustrate the effectiveness of field services personnel.

Selected Performance Measures			
	1998	1999	2000
Total UCR* Part 1** Crimes per 1,000 population	76	75	75
Average response time of emergency calls	4.8	4.8	4.8
Total UCR Property Crimes per 1,000 population served	69	69	69

*Uniform Crime Reporting

**Part 1 crimes include murder, rape, robbery, and assault

The Investigations Division conducts follow-up investigation of criminal offenses with a staff of over 100 commissioned personnel. Most are detectives. Located in City Hall, detectives are organized into functional areas: Homicide, Sex Crimes, Gang/Felony Assault; Exploited and Missing Children; Auto-Theft; Financial Crimes; Burglary; Robbery/Assault; and Larceny. In addition, the division maintains an undercover unit, an intelligence section, and an administrative section.

The Investigations Division focuses on the clearance of criminal offenses. Clearing criminal a offense means a suspect is identified and/or charges are filed against the suspect. Recent improvements in clearance rates are attributable to increased personnel added through the Public Safety Initiative, and to the enhanced crime focus due to the specialization of detectives.

Selected Performance Measures			
	1998	1999	2000
Percent UCR Part 1 Crimes cleared	25%	25%	25%
Percent of UCR Violent crimes cleared	52%	48%	48%
Percent of UCR Property crimes cleared	23%	23%	23%

Two new units recently established include the Computer Crimes and the Financial Crimes Sections. The City

received grant funds for 1997 through 1999 to train and establish a two-person team to focus exclusively on the use of computers in criminal offenses. Six detectives were added as the final component of the Public Safety Initiative to focus on forgery, embezzlement and fraud.

The Police Laboratory in the Investigations Division has fourteen crime scene investigators and supervisors who focus on collection of evidence at crime scenes. Two chemists and two photographers perform evidence analysis. The Property and Evidence Section, with a staff of seven, stores, maintains, and transports all evidence.

The Laboratory also includes one forensic examiner to analyze latent fingerprints. The Department is electronically networked to the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) at the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, a resource that has proven invaluable in identifying criminals and solving crimes. Due to increased workloads in latent prints, a chemist position is reclassified to a Forensic Examiner in the budget.

The Support Services Division provides a variety of functions and services. Support Services consists of four bureaus: Special Services, Records, Special Operations, and Training. The Internal Affairs section is also included in the Support Services Division.

Special Services includes Planning and Research, Community Affairs, School and Court Liaisons, and Fiscal Affairs. The Planning and Research staff of five analyzes crime statistics, targeting police resources at specifically identified problem areas. Four officers in Community Affairs focus on crime prevention by providing free security audits to Wichita residents and businesses. Fiscal Affairs (staff of five) provides payroll, budgeting, and other departmental financial services. Coordinating the appearance of officers in court, mitigating officer inconvenience and overtime, is the Court Liaison Section.

The School Liaison office works primarily with elementary school children. The officers are responsible for teaching the DARE program to area 5th graders. Two of the seven officers will be reassigned to middle schools as part of the School Resource Officer program.

The Records Bureau's 76 civilian positions are divided into two sections. The SPIDER section provides support, typically via the radio, to patrol officers. SPIDER checks suspects for City warrants, and provides other support as well. The remainder of the Records staff provides clerical support in creating, transcribing and filing police cases.

The Training Bureau coordinates recruit, in-service, and firearms training. In conjunction with the Sedgwick County Sheriff, the Police Department operates a

Training Center in north Wichita. Expenses are generally split, 75 percent to the City and 25 percent to the County. The facility also functions as a back-up emergency communications center. Annually, an average of 40 police recruits are trained, in addition to coordinating over 20,000 hours of in-service training for commissioned personnel.

The Training Bureau provides firearm training at the Joint Law Enforcement Firearms Training Facility. Costs of the Firearms Training Facility are shared equally between the Police Department and the Sedgwick County Sheriff. The facility provides live firearms training and simulated training through the use of a FireArms Training Simulator.

The Special Operations Bureau consists of the Air and Traffic Sections and several other units. An eight-person Bomb Squad handles ordinance disposal throughout the region. A highly trained Special Weapons and Tactics team of 15 officers is available for high risk, violent, or hostage situations, and a 12-member Honor Guard represents the department and City at special events. The Bureau also coordinates chaplain services and provides a 12-member Mounted Patrol Unit for special events such as the annual River Festival.

The Air section operates two Schweizer Model 300 helicopters. Three commissioned officers and one mechanic are assigned to full-time helicopter duty.



The department operates two helicopters to search for suspects, monitor events, and track fleeing criminals.

In an average year, the helicopter accumulates almost 1,000 flight hours of service such as in auto pursuits, allowing ground patrol officers to use less aggressive tactics. Other services include searching for fleeing suspects and missing persons.

The Traffic Section, composed of 73 positions, enforces the traffic ordinances in Wichita. The Traffic Section includes 43 commissioned positions operating both cars and motorcycles.

The Traffic Section implemented the NOTE (Neighborhood Oriented Traffic Enforcement) system to target enforcement at high-risk locations. The NOTE system uses accident and fatality information provided by Planning and Research to focus enforcement and deterrence efforts. Traffic officers also respond to neighborhood complaints by conducting traffic enforcement activities in areas identified by citizens.

Selected Performance Measures				
	1998	1999	2000	
DUI arrests per 1,000 population	7.94	8.50	8.50	
Injury accidents per 1000 population	9.95	8.00	8.0	
Traffic citations per 1,000 population	251	263	263	

Accident investigation is a primary responsibility of the Traffic Section, assisted occasionally by beat officers. A staff of 19 civilian Traffic Safety Officers is tasked exclusively with accident investigation. In addition, two detectives focus on fatal accident investigations.

Police also maintain a DUI enforcement unit that focuses on DUI prevention and apprehension. The unit includes



The department investigates over 7,700 traffic accidents annually.

eight civilians to operate four Breath Alcohol Testing (BAT) Vans. The BAT Vans conduct field-testing of suspected drunk drivers and periodically are used in checklanes.

The 2000 Budget transfers the Warrant Office from Municipal Court to the Police Department. The transfer shifts eleven full-time and 4 part-time staff to Police. The Warrant Office will coordinate closely with Planning and Research, SPIDER and beat officers to apprehend persons with City warrants.

Police Department Budget Summary					
	1998 Actual	1999 Adopted	1999 Revised	2000 Adopted	2001 Approved
Personal Services	32,005,177	33,693,660	34,115,650	36,679,290	38,322,360
Contractual Services	4,163,132	4,171,980	4,205,360	4,293,360	4,306,890
Commodities	668,621	613,210	635,750	643,090	643,040
Capital Outlay	0	33,490	21,700	13,880	13,880
Other	3,256,588	4,582,820	3,269,920	4,643,140	5,279,270
Police Department Expenditures	40,093,517	43,095,160	42,248,380	46,272,760	48,565,440
COPS Universal Grant	2,033,193	1,367,280	1,367,280	352,020	0
Local Law Enforcement Block Grant	649,055	0	543,290	0	0
Narcotics Seizure Funds	229,842	0	380,240	0	0
Other Grant Funds	317,338	0	279,620	320,840	338,880
General Fund	40,093,517	43,095,160	42,248,380	46,272,760	48,565,440
Total Police Resources	43,322,945	44,462,440	44,818,810	46,900,940	48,904,320
Position Summary					
Total commissioned (local)	501	501	514	514	514
Total full-time civilians (local)	201	201	201	204	204
Total part time civilians (local)	0	0	0	4	4
Total-FTE (local)	702	702	715	720	720
Total commissioned (grant funded)	125	125	120	120	120